

Message Text

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ACTION EA-09

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R 110830Z NOV 75

FM AMCONSUL HONG KONG

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7957

INFO AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

USLO PEKING

CINCPAC HONOLULU HI

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CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, CH

SUBJ: PEOPLE'S DAILY ON LEARNING FROM WWII

1. A LENGTHY COLUMN IN THE NOVEMBER 7 PEOPLE'S DAILY PROVIDES HISTORICAL EVIDENCE OF THE CONSEQUENCES OF APPEASEMENT, AND, WHILE THERE IS NO ATTEMPT TO RELATE THESE HISTORICAL "FACTS" TO THE PRESENT, THE ARTICLES CONSTITUTE A SCARCELY CONCEALED ATTACK ON U.S. DETENTE POLICY. THE COLUMN CONSISTS OF SEVERAL PARTS, INCLUDING SUMMATIONS OF THE MUNICH AGREEMENT AND THE EVACUATION OF DUNKIRK, SHORT BIOGRAPHIES OF CHAMBERLAIN AND DALADIER, AND A CHINESE DEFINITION OF APPEASEMENT. IN THE PAST, THE MEDIA HAS TERMED THE CSCE SIGNING AT HELSINKI A SECOND MUNICH AND THE DUNKIRK EVACUATION PIECE WOULD APPEAR TO BE FURTHER PRC WARNINGS OF THE NEED FOR EUROPEAN UNITY.

2. THE TIMING OF THE COLUMN, THE SAME DAY THAT NCNA

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COVERED THE RECENT FORD ADMINISTRATION PERSONNEL CHANGES,

(HK 13347) ALSO SUGGESTS THAT THE COLUMN IS RELATED TO THE CHINESE REACTION TO THE DISMISSAL OF SECRETARY SCHLESINGER, WHOM THEY SAW AS AN OUTSPOKEN OPPONENT OF DETENTE.

3. THE MOST INTERESTING PART OF THE ARTICLE IS ITS CONCLUDING SECTION ON THE DEFINITION OF APPEASEMENT, WHICH IS "ALSO CALLED THE COMPROMISE POLICY AND MEANS TO SATISFY THE DESIRES OF AGGRESSORS BY MAKING CONCESSIONS AND COMPROMISE AND SACRIFICING THE INTERESTS OF THE PEOPLE OF OTHER COUNTRIES IN ORDER TO PROTECT THEMSELVES. THE MUNICH PORTION SEES THE FRENCH AND BRITISH "SELL-OUT" OF CZECHOSLOVAKIA AS "WISHFUL THINKING" ON THEIR PART. THEY ARE ACCUSED OF HOPING THAT GERMANY WOULD THEN TURN ITS ATTENTION TOWARDS THE SOVIET UNION BUT "HITLER BULLIED THE WEAK BUT FEARED THE STRONG." THUS, HITLER DID NOT DARE TO MEET FORCE WITH FORCE AGAINST THE STRONG "SOCIALIST SOVIET UNION" AND INSTEAD ATTACKED THE BRITISH-FRENCH ALLY, POLAND.

4. THE BRITISH WITHDRAWAL OF LARGE NUMBERS OF TROOPS FROM DUNKIRK IS GIVEN DUE CREDIT BUT THIS PORTION ENDS BY CLAIMING THAT THE "BRITISH TOOK CARE ONLY OF THEIR OWN EVACUATION WHILE LARGE NUMBERS OF FRENCH TROOPS WERE CAPTURED BY THE GERMANS." THIS APPARENTLY ALSO RELATES DIRECTLY TO CHINESE CONCERNS FOR A STRONG UNIFIED EUROPE, IN THE FACE OF THE CURRENT SOVIET THREAT.

5. COMMENT: PEKING'S HAM-HANDED WARNINGS ON DETENTE ARE AN INDICATION OF THE LEVEL OF PRC CONCERN OVER U.S. POLICIES. WITH THE RECENT ANNOUNCEMENT THAT SALT II PROGRESS IS STALLED AND THE POSSIBLE CANCELLATION OF THE BREZHNEV VISIT, HOWEVER, THESE TACTICS SHOULD ABATE SOMEWHAT.
CROSS

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